

Remarks

Claims 31, 32, 35, 36, 50, 53-58, 63, and 108-121 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 32 and 54 and amended claims 31, 53, and 109. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the subject specification and in the claims as originally filed. Entry and consideration of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 31, 35, 36, 50, 53, 55-58, 63, and 108-121 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC §112, second paragraph.

Claims 31, 35, 36, 50, 55-58, 108, 120, and 121 are rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph as nonenabled by the subject specification. The Examiner maintains that the specification, while being enabling for a vaccine composition that induces a protective immune response against two or more subtypes of FIV, wherein the composition comprises an effective amount of an FIV immunogen that minimally includes the FIV envelope glycoprotein, does not enable those vaccine embodiments that do not include envelope glycoprotein from at least two different FIV subtypes. Applicant respectfully maintains that the subject application enables vaccine compositions for all FIV immunogens and is not limited to FIV envelope glycoprotein. However, by this Amendment, Applicant has amended independent claim 31 to incorporate the element of dependent claim 32. Thus, claim 31, as amended, recites that an immunogen comprises an FIV envelope protein, or an immunogenic fragment thereof. Claim 32 is not included under the rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicant's agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicant believes that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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